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United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

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TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: P - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: EAP - Thomas Hubbard, Acting

SUBJECT: Commerce Secretary Brown's Trip to China

SUMMARY

During his recent trip to China, August 27-31, Commerce Secretary Ron Brown signed at least a dozen commercial agreements; presided over the conclusion of nearly \$5 billion in contracts for American business; and pressed for the resumption of our bilateral human rights dialogue [redacted]

[redacted] U.S. media coverage was heavy, with a strong theme being that Brown had placed commercial interests above human rights. Brown will return to the U.S. on September 3.

DISCUSSION

HUMAN RIGHTS [redacted]

Secretary Brown, who was briefed in depth by Acting Secretary Talbott, EAP Assistant Secretary Lord, and DRL Assistant Secretary Shattuck, and met with representatives of key human rights NGOs, went to China prepared to present our human rights concerns in the context of our broader policy of engagement. He raised human rights issues with each of his senior Chinese interlocutors. [redacted]

[redacted]

By the end of Brown's stay in China, the Chinese announced they would accept Assistant Secretary Shattuck's early August invitation to his Chinese counterpart to resume our bilateral human rights dialogue. Assistant Foreign Minister Qin Huasun

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will now accompany Vice Premier/Foreign Minister Qian to the UNGA, and onward for Qian's bilateral meeting with you in Washington. The U.S. press nonetheless sought to report the Brown trip as evidence of a failed U.S. policy on human rights. Secretary Brown handled international press inquiries about human rights with aplomb, parrying implicit criticisms of U.S. policy with a factual, non-polemical defense of the President's engagement policy.

COMMERCIAL SCORECARD LOOKS GOOD FOR BEIJING SEGMENT

According to the Commerce Department, the USDOC - MOFTEC Framework agreement, and all of the subordinate sectoral agreements were signed. Contracts were finalized for IBM, Pitney Bowes, and Westinghouse Electric, among others.

McDonnell-Douglas has yet to sign an amendment to their basic co-production agreement, which would allow 20 of an initially ordered 40 co-produced airplanes to be imported directly from Long Beach -- i.e., a switch from co-production to direct import. McDonnell-Douglas has also not yet signed a letter of intent which would set November 1 as the signing date for the contract covering the pricing of the 20 planes coming from Long Beach.

We are waiting for word on the multi-billion dollar Chrysler mini-van project in Shanghai.

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URGENT INFORMATION FOR INFO MEMO TO SECRETARY IN BROWN'S  
China trip

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